

have been amended with a view of correcting all the indefinite rejections. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-4 conform to the statute.

Claims 1-4 were rejected as being anticipated or in the alternative as being obvious over Boucher. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Boucher discloses the use of two conventional doctor blades for removing contaminants and sheet (paper web) from the surface of the roll. Boucher does not teach or suggest the use of a doctor foil. Further, the conventional doctor blades in Boucher are used solely for scraping dirt from the roll surface. A doctor foil, on the other hand, is used for removing water out of the perforations in a suction roll. The present invention employs two different kinds of doctors, first a doctor foil and then a conventional doctor blade, which is totally new and not obvious from any cited documents. In practice, the doctor foil first removes the film of water from the surface of the suction roll and then creates a suction effect after it. This is termed the foil effect and it always arises when a suction roll rotates. The foil effect sucks the water from the holes in the suction roll, which is then removed by the doctor blade. This effect does not occur when only conventional doctor blades are employed. For these reasons, applicant respectfully requests that this rejection based upon Boucher be withdrawn.

Claims 1-4 were rejected as being obvious in view of applicants' admission of prior art at page 1 of the specification (AAPA) as necessary with Kivimaa et al., and further in view of Boucher, if necessary further with Turtinen et al. The examiner states that applicant admits in the specification that a suction roll doctor is known. The examiner further states that applicant admits that a double doctor has been used to remove water from a suction roll. The examiner moreover states that it would be prima facie obvious to use a "doctor slat" (applicant rather would refer to it as a "doctor foil") to obtain the effects of the doctor taught in Kivimaa et al. in a double doctor. The examiner finally states that the spacing between the two doctors would be within the level of ordinary skill in the art and is prima facie obvious in view of Boucher.

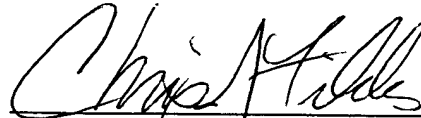
Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. No teaching or suggestion of such novel structure is present in the cited art. Kivimaa et al. teaches the use of a doctor foil to remove water from a suction roll. Boucher teaches the use of two conventional doctor blades to remove contaminants from the surface of the roll. A doctor foil is totally different than a conventional doctor blade. A doctor blade is loaded against the roll only by its front edge and the angle between the doctor blade and the roll is big. A doctor foil, on the other hand, is arranged almost tangentially with respect to the roll. Further, a doctor blade does suck water from the roll. The special structure and arrangement of a doctor foil, however, causes the foil effect, which sucks water from the suction roll. Nothing in the prior art teaches or suggests the use of a doctor foil in combination with a doctor blade. This unique combination leads to the advantages disclosed in the present application. Finally, Boucher teaches that the angle between two doctor blades is up to 15°. Boucher also states that the angle is structured as such so that there is room to allow scraped material to fall through the doctor blades. According to the present invention, the angle between the doctor foil and the doctor blade is between 15° and 70°. This is a big difference from Boucher and arises from the fact that the use of a doctor foil with a doctor blade is a different structural combination than two doctor blades. Hence, the angle between a doctor foil and a doctor blade is not obvious based on the taught angle between two doctor blades. Therefore, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

This request for reconsideration is felt to be fully responsive to the comments and suggestions of the examiner and to present the claims in better condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Tuomo Juvakka et al.

Fildes & Outland, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Fildes", written over a horizontal line.

Christopher J. Fildes, Attorney
Registration No. 32,132
20916 Mack Avenue, Suite 2
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
(313) 885-1500

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Claim 5 has been canceled.

Claims 1-4 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A doctoring device [for] in combination with a suction roll [particularly] in a paper machine, which doctoring device is [intended] structured and arranged to remove water from the suction roll and which doctoring device includes a doctor [slat] foil fitted against the perforated surface of the suction roll to extend essentially over the entire width at the suction roll, as well as its holder and loading devices, which doctor foil is arranged to lift off water from the perforated surface of the suction roll by means of its foil effect, characterized in that, in the direction of the rotation of the suction roll, there is a conventional doctor blade[, which is as such known,] with a blade holder fitted to the doctoring device after the doctor [slat] foil, arranged to remove the water lifted off the suction roll by the doctor [slat] foil and that the angle between the lines of contact of the doctor [slat] foil and the conventional doctor blade in relation to [the] an imagined axis of rotation of the suction roll is 15 - 70°.

2. (Amended) A doctoring device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the doctoring device has a frame construction, to which the holders of both the doctor [slat] foil and the conventional doctor blade are fitted.

3. (Amended) A doctoring device according to Claim 2, characterized in that the holder of the doctor [slat] foil is fitted detachably to the frame construction.

4. (Amended) A doctoring device according to Claim 3, characterized in that the frame construction includes attachments corresponding to the blade holder of the conventional doctor blade in the vicinity of the holder of the doctor [slat] foil.